DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

DECLASSIFIED

102

SECRET

November 24, 1980

TO: S/S - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: NEA - Harold H. Saunders

SUBJECT: Transition Papers

We have the following suggestions for additional transition papers which would take us beyond the limited "first 90-day" issues papers and provide a deeper analytical look at major NEA issues and at alternative ways of approaching them:

1. A regional overview: This paper will look at the region from the perspective of major U.S. interests, the interrelationships between policies that address these issues (e.g. the impact of U.S. policies in the peace process on U.S. security requirements in the region), and those "forcing events" which determine the pacing and content of major policy decisions in the first year of the new Administration.

2. The Regional Security Framework: Working with PM, we will examine present policy and the adequacy of its integration with other regional and global policies, consider the requirements to implement the present approach and analyze possible alternative policies.

3. The Peace Process: This paper will review the status of the peace process, analyze the positions of the key players and the regional changes that affect these positions, and discuss ways to approach the process in the future, in a framework of an integrated view of U.S. interests.

4. Lebanon: The fragility of central authority in Lebanon, and the often conflicting roles played by the Syrians, Israelis, PLO, and sectarian groups could create a new major crisis with a sharp impact on the peace process, and the U.S. role in the Middle East. The NEA paper will analyze the impact of Lebanon on U.S. interests, the factors at play there and a range of U.S. and international responses that could be considered.

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 6/7/83
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☒ RELEASABLE☒
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED

5. Afghanistan: Following the Soviet invasion, "Afghanistan" has developed major significance in East-West relations, in U.S. relations with its allies, and in regional security policies. Working with EUR and other interested Bureaus, we are developing a paper which looks comprehensively at the spectrum of issues, analyzes the relationships between these policies and other policy objectives, and discusses possible different approaches.

NEA:PDConstable:gcb

DECLASSIFIED